



FEMA

Disclaimer: The purpose of this briefing is to provide a ***Regional*** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information. To find your local NWS forecast office, go to www.weather.gov/srh and click on the "Weather Forecast Offices" tab and click on the map for your area.

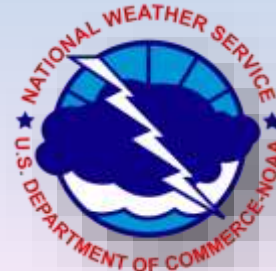
FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Wednesday, March 28, 2018
Issued: 0800 CT

Day One Hazards: *Slight risk of severe thunderstorms across Coastal & SE TX into S AR and LA; damaging winds are the main threat, but hail is possible. Isolated tornadoes possible as well, more so over S AR, N LA and NE TX.*

Heavy rainfall/flash flooding possible over S AR, LA and E/SE TX.

National Weather Service
Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX



Prepared by: Jennifer McNatt
817-978-1100 x 147

Key Points



Today

- Slight risk of severe thunderstorms across Coastal & SE TX into S AR and LA; damaging winds are the main threat, but hail is possible. Isolated tornadoes possible as well, more so over S AR, N LA and NE TX.
- Heavy rainfall/flash flooding possible over S AR, LA and E/SE TX.

Thursday

- Slight risk of severe thunderstorms remains over extreme SE LA; damaging winds are the main threat.
- Some lingering heavy rain may be possible over SE LA through the afternoon.

Friday - Sunday

- No significant weather expected Friday.
- Another round of rainfall is possible over E OK through AR Saturday night into Sunday; this may prolong any lingering river flooding as well as produce some additional isolated flooding.

River Flood Status

- The Atchafalaya River continues a flat crest at Morgan City, LA and remains in moderate flood stage.
- Mostly minor river flooding continues/expected across E OK, AR, E TX & LA due to recent and ongoing rainfall; the Ouachita River in S AR/N LA is in or expected to be in moderate/major flood (roads under water, recreational areas flooded). The Illinois River in NE OK is cresting in moderate flood today/tonight with campgrounds flooded.
- The MS River at Baton Rouge is expected to fall below major flood stage today and continue to fall through the weekend.

FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Mar 28, 2018 – Apr 1, 2018

DAY / THREAT	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
Severe Storms	S/SE TX, LA, S AR	Extreme SE LA			
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	S AR, E/SE TX, LA	SE LA		E OK, AR	E OK, AR
Fire Weather					
Winter					
River Flooding	MS River (SE LA)				
	E OK, AR, E TX, LA		E TX, AR, LA		

	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.

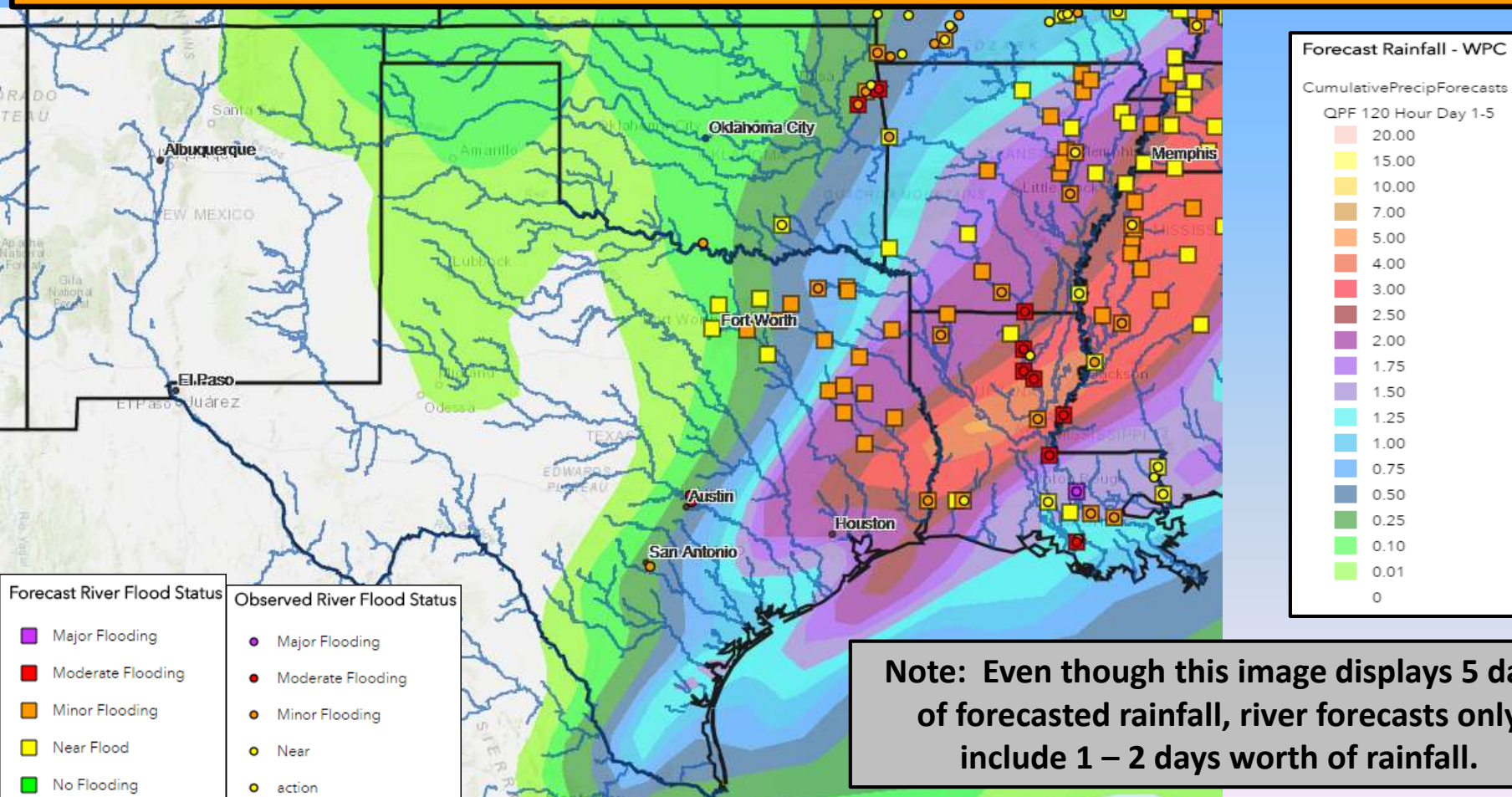


5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status

Mostly minor river flooding continues/expected across E OK, AR, E TX & LA due to recent and ongoing rainfall; the Ouachita River in S AR/N LA is in or expected to be in moderate/major flood (roads under water, recreational areas flooded). The Illinois River in NE OK is cresting in moderate flood today/tonight with campgrounds flooded.

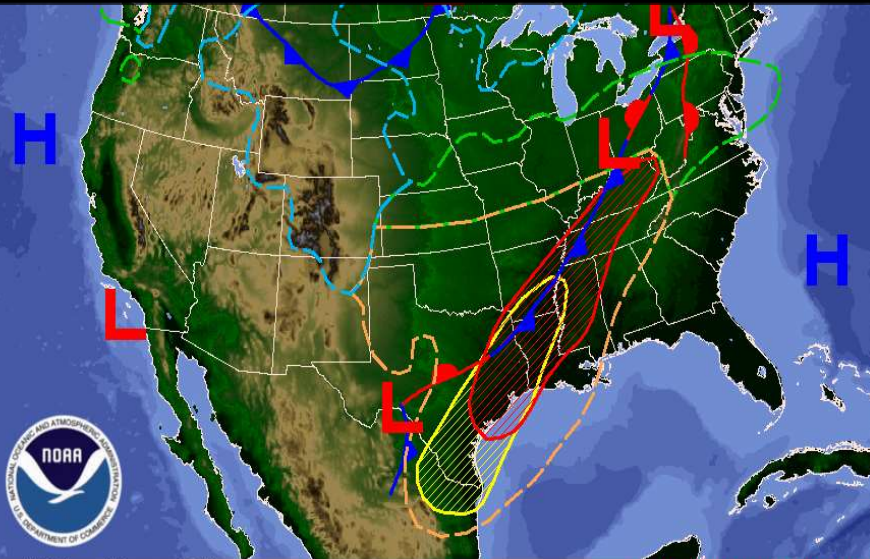
The MS River at Baton Rouge is expected to fall below major flood stage today and continue to fall through the weekend.

The Atchafalaya River continues a flat crest at Morgan City, LA and remains in moderate flood stage.



See <http://water.weather.gov/ahps> for the latest on river flooding

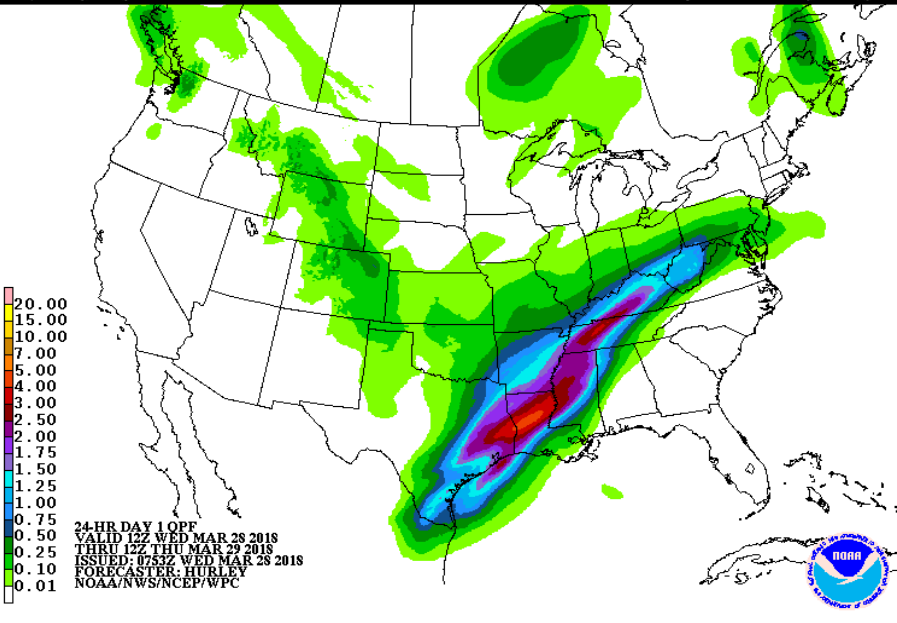
Today's Weather



Day 1 National Forecast Chart

Valid Wed, Mar 28, 2018, issued 4:08 AM EDT
 DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
 Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
 Rain and T'Storms
 Rain and Snow
 Snow
 Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
 Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
 Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
 Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



24 HR DAY 1 OPI
 VALID 12Z WED MAR 28 2018
 THRU 12Z THU MAR 29 2018
 ISSUED: 0753Z WED MAR 28 2018
 FORECASTER: HURLEY
 NOAA/NWS/NCEP/WPC

Slight risk of severe thunderstorms across Coastal & SE TX into S AR and LA; damaging winds are the main threat, but hail is possible. Isolated tornadoes possible as well, more so over S AR, N LA and NE TX.

Heavy rainfall/flash flooding possible over S AR, LA and E/SE TX.



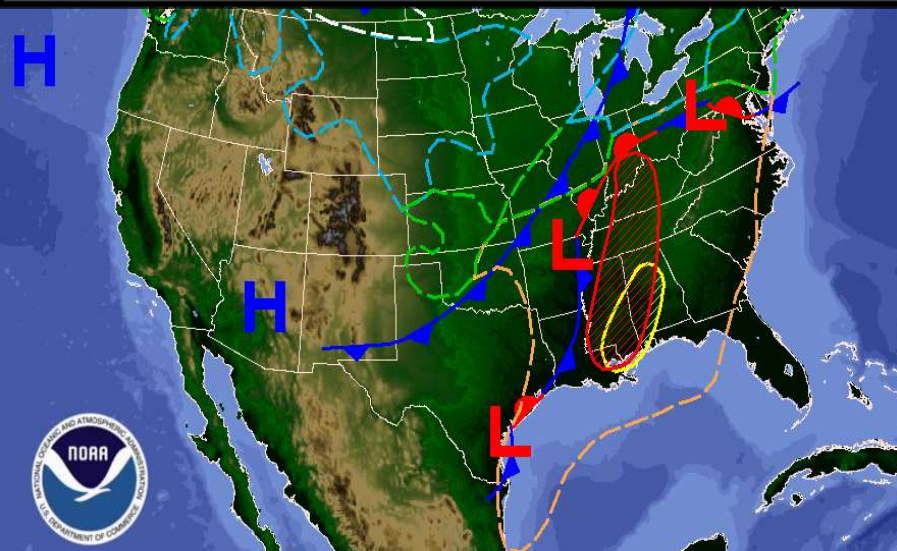
Severe Weather Outlook Wednesday, March 28, 2018

Last Updated: Mar 27 2018 1155 PM CDT
 Valid Until: Mar 28 0700 AM CDT

5 High
 4 Moderate
 3 Enhanced
 2 Slight
 1 Marginal
 Thunder



Tomorrow's Weather



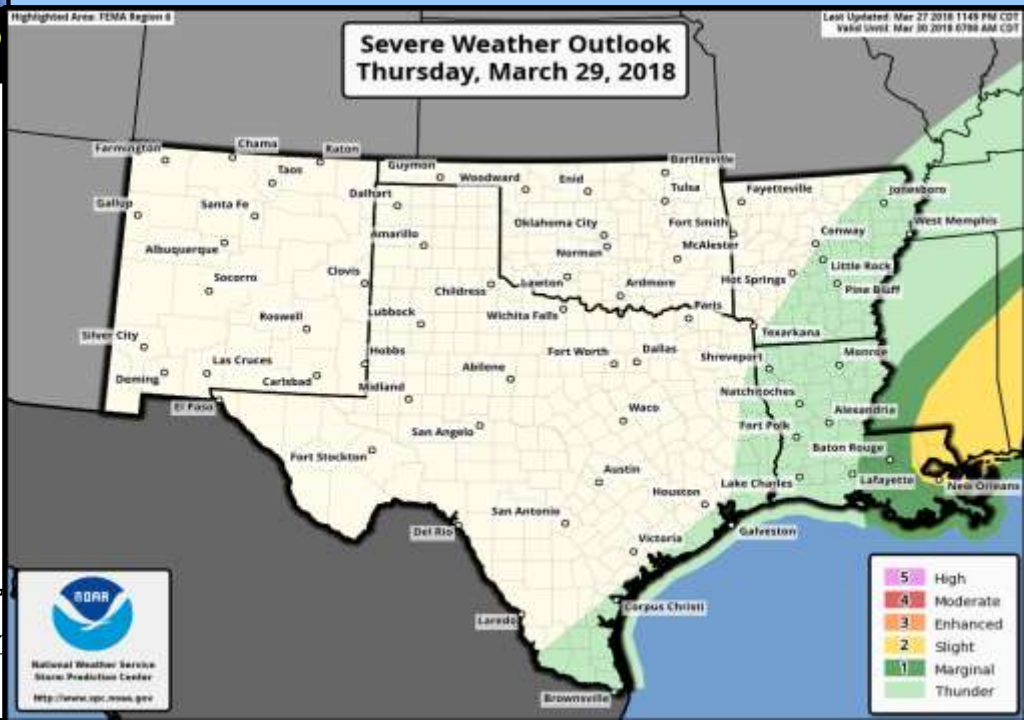
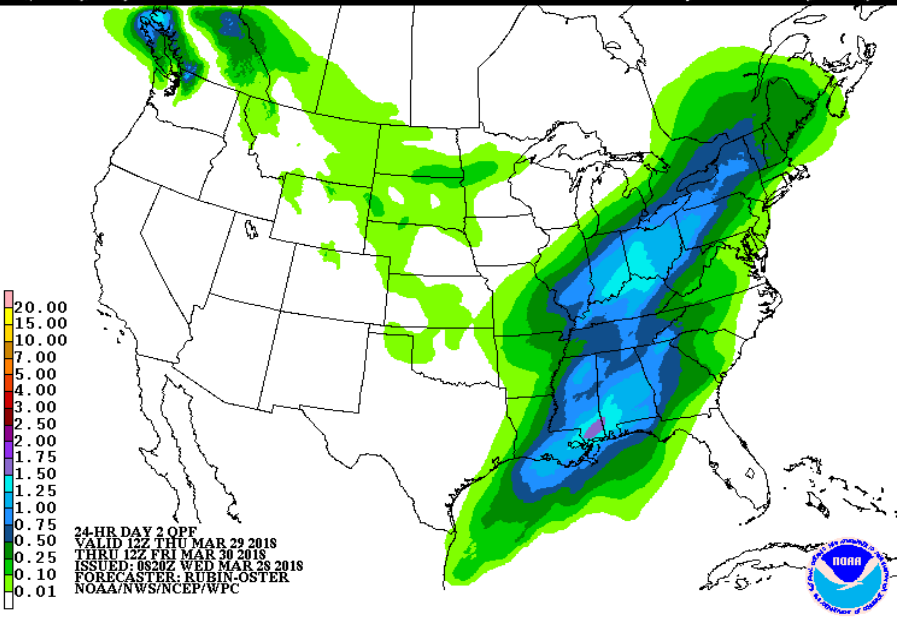
Slight risk of severe thunderstorms remains over extreme SE LA; damaging winds are the main threat.

Some lingering heavy rain may be possible over SE LA through the afternoon.

Day 2 National Forecast Chart

Valid Thu, Mar 29, 2018, issued 4:48 AM EDT Wed, Mar 28, 2018
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow
Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



Friday's Weather

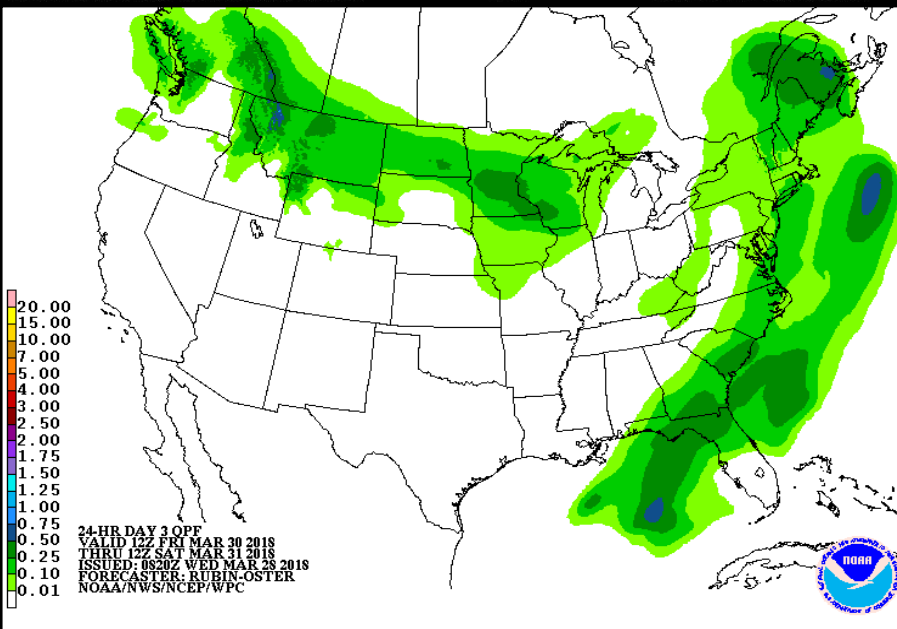
No significant weather expected.



Day 3 National Forecast Chart

Valid Fri, Mar 30, 2018, Issued 4:51 AM EDT Wed, Mar 28, 2018
DOC/NOAA/NWS/NCEP/Weather Prediction Center
Prepared by McCreynolds with WPC/SPC/NHC forecasts

Rain
Rain and T'Storms
Rain and Snow
Snow
Flash Flooding Possible (hatched)
Severe T'Storms Possible (hatched)
Freezing Rain Possible (hatched)
Heavy Snow Possible (hatched)



Highlighted Area: FEMA Region 8

Severe Weather Outlook Friday, March 30, 2018

Last Updated: Mar 28 2018 0112 AM CDT
Valid Until: Mar 31 2018 0700 AM CDT

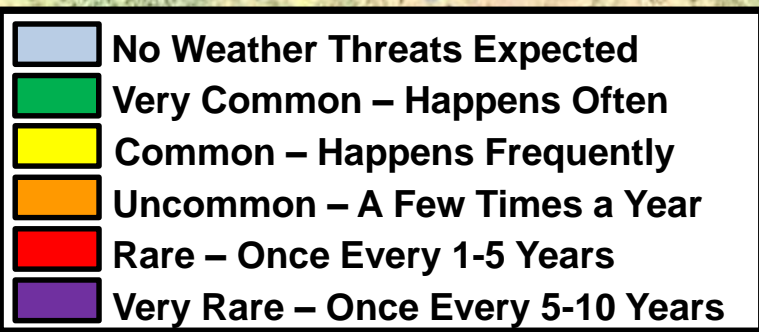


Day 4-5 Weather Hazards

Saturday - Sunday



Another round of rainfall possible Saturday night into Sunday; may prolong any lingering river flooding as well as produce some additional isolated flooding

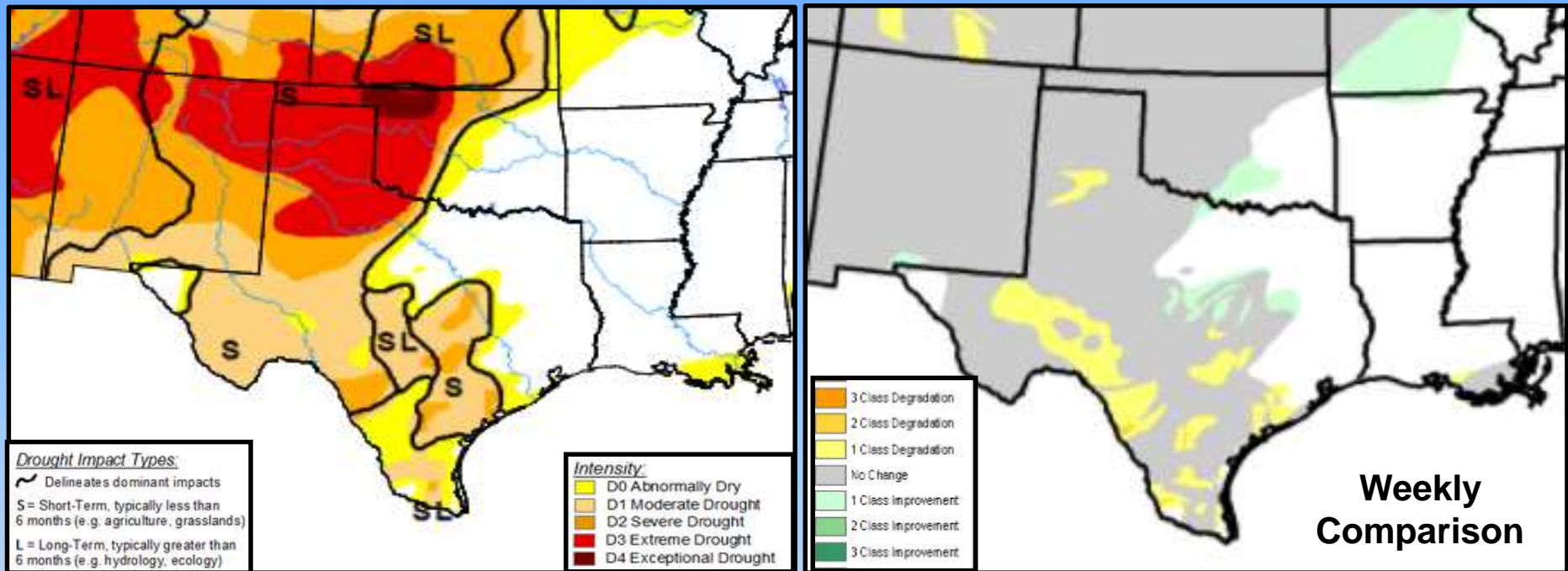


*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria. State or local threat level criteria may differ.



Drought Monitor Released March 22, 2018

Data valid as of 6am CST, Tuesday, March 20, 2018



Drought Conditions (Percent Area) in D3-D4 (Extreme to Exceptional Drought)

State	Current	Last Week	3 Months Ago	1 Year Ago
Arkansas	0.00%	0.00%	25.31%	2.00%
Louisiana	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Oklahoma	34.93%	34.93%	1.21%	3.17%
Texas	15.08%	14.19%	0.25%	0.00%
New Mexico	25.60%	25.50%	0.00%	0.00%

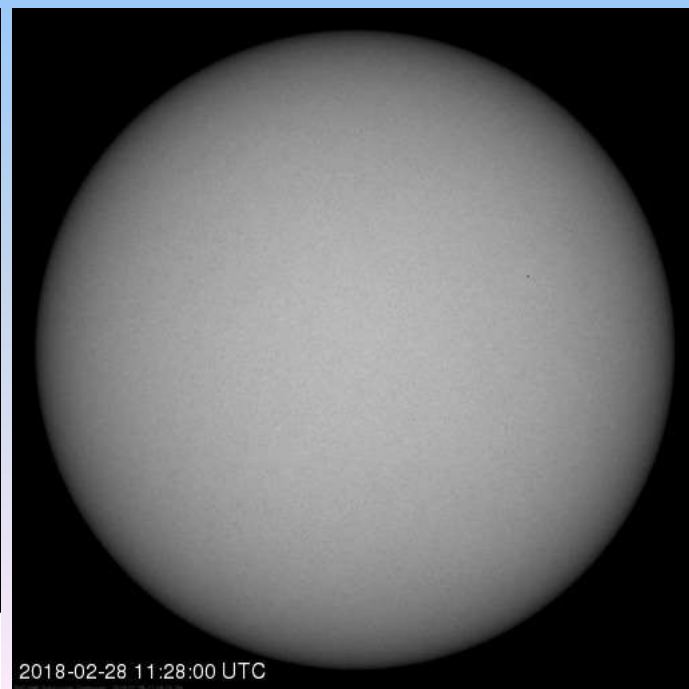
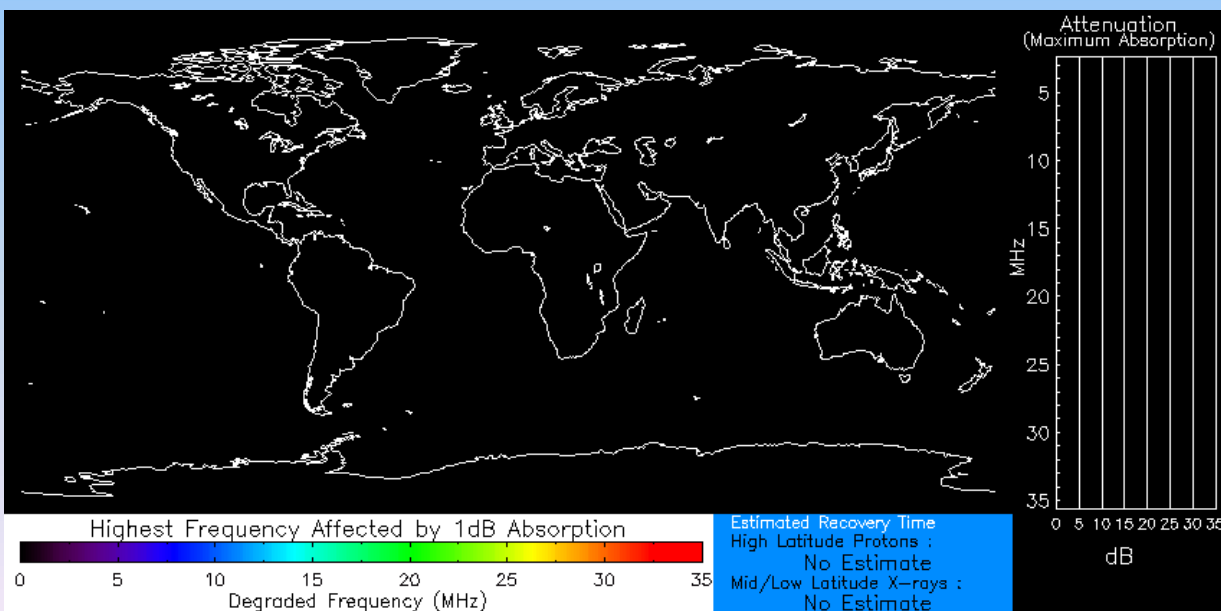
Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)

	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Geomagnetic Storms	Quiet (Max Kp = 2)	Unsettled to Active (Max Kp = 4)	Quiet to Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



Normal X-ray Background
Product Valid At : 2018-03-28 10:05 UTC

Normal Proton Background
NOAA/SWPC Boulder, CO USA

2018-02-28 11:28:00 UTC

Information provided by:



National Weather Service
Southern Region Headquarters
Regional Operations Center
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747 ***New Direct Number**
E-mail: sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov
Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh> (**NEW link!!**)

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<https://www.facebook.com/NWSSouthern>

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@NWS_Southern_US https://twitter.com/NWS_Southern_US

The criteria for the color codes in our briefings is below, please provide any feedback to sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov.



Weather "Threat" Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	Very Common Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX
Yellow	Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1" hail
Orange	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected
Red	Rare – Once every 1-5 Years Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue
Purple	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms